

of what he is going to be when he grows up or of his grandfather's big game hunting, etc., that he would like to do. I imagine he has formed this jiggling habit this way—a year ago in the summer he was allowed to play with the garden hose, which delights every child, and was allowed to help clean the car, etc. Then when it was too cold he had the hose in the house and would pretend to hose by the hour. He was a very solitary little boy then, no children near—I think he got into the habit of shaking the hose and so shakes sticks or whips now. He is very sensible otherwise and sits still when occupied or read to."

20. "Went to say good-night to X, and while I was talking he was playing with himself under the bed clothes.

*Do you often do that ?* Sometimes he's lonely. *When is he lonely?* Oh, when I'm sad sometimes. He wants a little love. *Oh, well, you're not often sad.* Some mothers (went on X.) scold their little boys for that. H. (mentioning a day boy) thinks it makes you very ill. *Yes, a lot of mothers think it is bad for their children.* Is it ? No. They think it's rude (wanting me of course to pronounce some sort of judgment). When you were a little girl did you ? I don't remember doing it but I remember being slapped for doing it. *So I suppose I did.* Slapped ? (said X. in rather a surprised way). Not your mother ? (He knows my mother. I was very glad to be able to say): *No, one of my older step-sisters that you don't know.* (He turned to a book he had on the bed and started telling me about Robin Hood.)

WOOLLEY, *np. cit.* p. 66. "It is now generally conceded that infants and young children almost universally find out that pleasant sensations are aroused by manipulating the sex organs and frequently adopt the habit for a time. They wish to maintain and repeat the sensation. Even before it had scientific recognition, unscrupulous nurses knew that infants

could be kept quiet by stroking and pressing the sex organ and practised the art. When the infant himself adopts the habit, it may be regarded as a preliminary stage of masturbation."

WOOLLEY, *ibid.*, p. 67. "The manipulation of the sex organs, or masturbation, is a habit which it is peculiarly difficult for parents to treat with any understanding or sympathy. The *Minnesota Handbook* says, 'No other childish habit is so misunderstood, or is the object of so much unreasoning emotional reaction' (14, p. 98). The physiological harm done by the amount of masturbation which a normal well-regulated child does is negligible."